

Senate File 81

SENATE FILE _____
BY WOOD, SCHOENJAHN, HANCOCK,
DANIELSON, RIELLY, ZAUN,
and MULDER

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring school districts to adopt a student advancement
2 policy and making an appropriation.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
4 TLSB 1981SS 82
5 kh/es/88

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1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 279.65 STUDENT ADVANCEMENT
1 2 POLICY == FINDINGS == SUPPLEMENTAL STRATEGIES AND EDUCATIONAL
1 3 SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM.
1 4 1. The general assembly finds and declares that students
1 5 should be able to meet or exceed the expectations established
1 6 by the school district of enrollment in order to advance to
1 7 the next grade level.
1 8 2. The board of directors of each school district shall
1 9 adopt a student advancement policy which provides for the
1 10 following:
1 11 a. Supplemental strategies to be provided to all students
1 12 in kindergarten through grade five who do not meet the grade
1 13 level expectations established by the school district for
1 14 English=language arts, social studies, mathematics, and
1 15 science.
1 16 b. A requirement that students in grades six through eight
1 17 who fail one or more of the core courses make up deficiencies
1 18 before advancing to the next level in the subject area. "Core
1 19 course", for purposes of this section, means a course in the
1 20 following subject areas: English=language arts, social
1 21 studies, mathematics, and science.
1 22 c. Opportunities for students to meet the school
1 23 district's expectations as provided in paragraphs "a" and "b"
1 24 which shall include but not be limited to supplemental
1 25 educational services such as tutoring that may be offered
1 26 before and after school or during the summer and that may be
1 27 provided by private service providers.
1 28 3. If a student in kindergarten through grade eight does
1 29 not meet the grade level core course expectations established
1 30 by the school district as provided in this section, the school
1 31 district shall develop a plan for supplemental strategies or
1 32 supplemental educational services, and for measuring student
1 33 progress, in consultation with the student's parent or
1 34 guardian.
1 35 4. In deciding student placement and advancement, the
2 1 board of directors of a school district shall make every
2 2 effort to reach agreement with parents and guardians.
2 3 5. A supplemental strategies and educational services
2 4 grant program is established to be administered by the
2 5 department of education to award grants to school districts
2 6 for purposes of providing supplemental strategies and
2 7 educational services to students who do not meet the grade
2 8 level expectations established by the school district for
2 9 English=language arts, social studies, mathematics, and
2 10 science. The department shall develop the criteria and a
2 11 process for awarding supplemental strategies and educational
2 12 services grants to school districts when moneys are
2 13 appropriated for the grant program.
2 14 Sec. 2. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION == SUPPLEMENTAL STRATEGIES
2 15 AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM. There is appropriated
2 16 from the general fund of the state to the department of
2 17 education for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007, and
2 18 ending June 30, 2008, the following amount, or so much thereof

2 19 as may be necessary, to be used for the purposes designated:
2 20 For purposes of the supplemental strategies and educational
2 21 services grant program established pursuant to this Act:
2 22 \$ 5,050,000
2 23 From the funds appropriated in this section, the department
2 24 may retain up to \$50,000 for administration of the
2 25 supplemental strategies and educational services grant
2 26 program.

2 27 EXPLANATION

2 28 This bill requires school boards to adopt a student
2 29 advancement policy and establishes legislative findings to
2 30 support the requirement. The bill also appropriates \$5.05
2 31 million to the department of education for FY 2007=2008 from
2 32 the general fund for a supplemental strategies and educational
2 33 services grant program for distribution to school districts
2 34 for tutoring and other opportunities for students to meet the
2 35 expectations of the school district.

3 1 The policy adopted by a school district must provide that
3 2 supplemental strategies will be provided to all kindergarten
3 3 through grade five students who do not meet grade level
3 4 expectations; that students in grades six through eight must
3 5 make up deficiencies before advancing in English=language
3 6 arts, social studies, mathematics, or science; and that
3 7 supplemental education services such as tutoring must be
3 8 offered to students to help the students meet school district
3 9 expectations.

3 10 In deciding student placement and advancement, a school
3 11 district must make every effort to reach agreement with
3 12 parents and guardians.

3 13 The department is charged with developing criteria and a
3 14 process for awarding supplemental strategies and educational
3 15 services grants to school districts.

3 16 LSB 1981SS 82
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